REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request that the foregoing amendments to Claims 4, 8-11, 13, 15, 18-21, 23, 24 and 27 and therefore added new Claim 28 to be entered in order to avoid this application incurring a surcharge for the presence of one or more multiple dependent claims.

Respectfully submitted,

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By ______________________

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Versions with Markings to Show Changes Made

4. (Amended) A cell according to [any of Claims 1-3] Claim 1 characterised in that said pluripotential characteristic includes the expression of at least one selected marker.

8. (Amended) A cell according to [Claims 1-7] Claim 1 characterised in that said pluripotential characteristic includes the presence of telomerase activity.

9 (Amended) A cell according to [any of Claims 1-8] Claim 1 characterised in that said pliripotential characteristic includes the presence of a chromosomal methylation pattern characteristic of pluripotential cells.

10. (Amended) A cell according to [any of Claim 1-9] Claim 1 chracterised in that said pluripotential characteristic includes the ability to induce tumours when introduced into an animal.

11. (Amended) A cell-line consisting of cells according to [any of Claims 1-10] Claim 1.

13. (Amended) A method for the preparation of a cytoplasmic part for use in the production of a cell according to [any of Claims 1-10 or a cell-line according to Claims 11 or 12] Claim 1 comprising;

(i) providing at least one embryonal teratocarcinoma cell;

(ii) separating at least part of the cytoplasm from the nucleus of said cell;

(iii) isolating said cytoplasmic part; and, optionally

(iv) storing said isolated cytoplasmic part under suitable storage conditions.

15. (Amended) A method for preparing a cell according to [any of Claims 1-10 or a cell-line according to Claims 11 or 12] Claim 1 comprising;

(i) combining at least one embryonal teratocarcinoma cell with at least one differentiated somatic cell;

(ii) removing the embryonal teratocarcinoma nucleus from said combined cell;

(iii) culturing said cell under conditions conducive to proliferation and expansion of said cell; and, optionally

(iv) storing said cell culture under suitable conditions.

18. (Amended) A method according to Claim 16 characterised in that said cytoplast is combined with said somatic cell via cytoplast/somatic cell fusion.

19. (Amended) A method according to [Claims 16-18] Claim 16 characterised in that said embryonal carcinoma cell and somatic cell are of human origin.

20. (Amended) A cell culture comprising at least one cell according to [any of Claims 1-10] Claim 1.

21. (Amended) A method for inducing differentiation of at least one cell [according to any of Claims 1-10] comprising;

(i) providing a cell according to [any of Claims 1-10] Claim 1;

(ii) culturing said cell under conditions conducive to the differentiation of said cell into at lease one tissue; and optionally

(iii) storing of said differentiated tissue prior to use under suitable storage conditions.

23. (Amended) At least one tissue type or organ comprising at least one cell according to [any of Claims 1-10] Claim 1.

24. (Amended) A therapeutic composition comprising at least one cell according to [any of Claims 1-10] Claim 1 including a suitable excipient, diluent or carrier.

27. (Amended) A kit comprising at least one cell according to [any of Claims 1-10] Claim 1; instructions with respect to maintenance of said cell in culture; and optionally, factors required to induce differentiation of said cell to at least one desired tissue type or organ.